■ Entertainment



Tom Cruise has a new girl

■ World/A10

3 killed in attacks on tourists in Cairo, Egypt

■ Sports



Toney outpoints Ruiz for WBA heavyweight title

■ Across/A18



Breeding site for rare RP deer put up

■ Business/B1

Gov't trains guns on revenue agencies

Father of RP labor unionism honored

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

House now wants power VAT-exempt, says Joker

Monday, May 2, 2005 • 36 pages / vol. 20 / no. 143



FRONTLINE. Members of militant workers' groups led by Representatives Satur Ocampo, Crispin Beltran ...

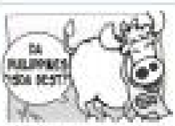
GMA orders hike in minimum wage

Regional boards given 30 days to set amounts

Labor rallies nationwide blame gov't for poverty



PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo attends a Labor Day Mass in Malacañang with First Gentleman Mike Arroyo and granddaughter ...



'Bangus' capital outgrills Turkey

De Venecia calls for meet to unify country

New coup plot more bluff than bite

ANALYSIS

WEATHER FORECAST

Second FrontPage

One year later, Bora killings unsolved

AIDS 'tsunami' matter of time, warns expert

By Christian V. Esguerra

Tip of the iceberg

Afraid to come out

Not invincible

Grenade kills 2

PAF calls off search for victims' remains

PNP: Rosebud paid with intel funds





Japan eyes RP nurses

Ketamine sale, use now illegal

Father of RP labor unionism honored



GMA orders . . .

Withholding tax

Manifesto

Pulled out of thin air

NBI enters diplomat's slay probe

The Daily Gospel





SPORTS

Aces claim 7th victim in Tigers

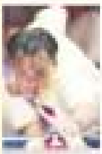


By Julie Manalo

EVEN the most smart defense can't get Dickey Simpkins out of his rhythm.

Chot may end up as Seaba coach

WHAT'S INSIDE





1,730 Indons in Mindanao get RP registration papers

New coup plot more bluff

Overestimation

Exaggerated

Labor rallies nationwide blame gov't for poverty



Protest goes on

Peaceful dispersal

Malacañang secure

No repeat of history

Rebels don't march

Foreign miners

Up north

Anger in the Visayas

Stealing the show

AN OPEN LETTER

To All Legazpeños

Teaching is considered as one of the most socially concerned profession. People with this profession never cease to share their tangible and intangible resources just to make sure that their community is in order. As quoted from DepEd Secretary Andrew Gonzalez, "Be proud you are a teacher, the future depends on you," a heavy load is therefore placed on every teacher's shoulders.

Aside from their primary responsibility, which is to teach, additional tasks to be performed are also given to them. One of these is to serve as Board of Election Inspectors (BEI) during elections, either local or national. It has been common knowledge that teachers carry out this duty effectively, with efficiency and dignity. Everyone knows that there is an ongoing recount for mayorship in the city of Legazpi. The latest revisions revealed that approximately 200 precincts showed the opposite of the original results.

For the first time in the political history of Legazpi, the teachers' credibility and integrity are being questioned.

It is in this light that we are writing this letter. For and behalf of the teachers, we strongly object to the "new" election result being circulated, particularly in the more or less 200 precincts that showed opposite result.

To give you a clearer picture of what usually happens in a precinct, watchers from different parties surround the BEIs from the time the votes are cast, up to the submission of all election results and paraphernalia to the COMELEC office and the City Treasurer's Office. Aside from the watchers, other non-political groups, NAMFREL and PPCRV included, are present to stand as witnesses so that no untoward events would happen. All incidents are duly recorded in the Minutes of Voting. With this kind of scenario during elections, no teacher will be able to perform illegal actions or irregularities just to favor a particular candidate.

May this letter give clarification to all Legazpeños especially to those who are questioning and doubting the teachers honesty during the last election.

WE, THE TEACHERS OF LEGAZPI, ATTEST TO THE ACCURACY AND VALIDITY OF THE ELECTION RETURNS AND MINUTES OF THE VOTING THAT WE HAVE PREPARED AND SUBMITTED TO COMELEC ON MAY 15, 2004 DULY CERTIFIED BY ALL THE WATCHERS AND PARTIES PRESENT IN THE ELECTIONS, INCLUDING PPCRV/NAMFREL.

WE STAND TALL AND UPRIGHT KNOWING THAT WE HAVE NEVER TAINTED OUR DIGNITY AND HONOR AS BOARD OF INSPECTORS (BEIs) DURING MAY 2004 ELECTIONS.

LEGAZPI CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL
TEACHERS & EMPLOYEES

Gov't gives OFWs free trip home from Iraq

US to assess Sulu's needs

Letran-Calamba alumni set reunion

The WORLD

3 killed in Cairo attacks on tourists

CAIRO—A suicide bomber struck at foreign tourists near Egypt's most famous museum on Saturday while his veiled sister and his girlfriend opened fire on a tourist bus in attacks that left all three dead, officials said.



FIRST TIME

Pinoys out of SMB 9-ball semifinals



Another basketball thrilla shaping up

BARE EYE



Recah Trinidad

Perez rules 2nd Mayor's Cup

Bush, Blair sought to topple Saddam 9 months before Iraq war, says report

LONDON—U.S. President George W. Bush and British Prime Minister Tony Blair were determined to topple Saddam Hussein at least nine months before they launched the war in Iraq, British documents leaked to a Sunday newspaper say.

[illegible]



SADDAM smiling during the celebration of his 61st birthday, April 28, 1998.

Malaysia assailed o[ver] migrant labor

KUALA LUMPUR—[illegible]

Taiwan leader urges

TAIPEI, Taiwan—[illegible]

Final hurdle cle[ared for Khmer] Rouge justice af[ter …]

By Samantha Brown

PHNOM PENH—[illegible]



Insurgent attacks kill 9 in Baghdad on 3rd day of renewed viole

[illegible]

n May Day crackdown

[illegible]



RARE APPEARANCE Japanese Crown Princess Masako, who spent more than a year in seclusion with a stress-related illness, made a rare public appearance on Sunday as she attended a ceremony marking the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the Japanese branch of Unicef. REUTERS

China to negotiate

[illegible]

ared for Khmer ter 30 years

[illegible]

Philippine Daily Inquirer

Opinion



Ante up

EDITORIAL

IF ONE looks closely, the latest cycle of "jueteng" charges follows a familiar formula. First an anonymous source sets the stage by claiming specific but confidential knowledge. (The other week, it was a high-ranking official in the Philippine National Police.)

Then a national personality steps into the limelight, sharpening the suspense by asserting similar or related information. (Last week, Sen. Panfilo Lacson, a former PNP chief, claimed he knew who the source was and who the new alleged key players were.)

Then like a restless cast, the rest of the political class rushes to the stage. (This week, we have yet another Senate committee investigation about to commence, chaired by Sen. Lito Lapid.)

We can expect the story to run for several more weeks, because it has all the elements of political [illegible]: sensational intrigue retailed by anonymous sources, a Senate hearing on a favorite but illegal numbers game, the strategic agitation of pro-Estrada forces and, not least, the mouth-watering possibility that for the second time in five years the jueteng trail may lead to the very doors of Malacañang.

What are we to make of this? We've seen this show before, and there is no denying its blockbuster appeal. Public interest is unarguably at stake. But precisely because we know this storyline all too well, we also know that talk, especially of the anonymous kind, is cheap.

We urge the ranking PNP officer to shed the cloak of anonymity and come forward. His allegation that three new political personalities—M1, M2 and JS7, all of whom emerged, he said, after President Macapagal-Arroyo won a full term last year—now control a substantial part of the illegal game is an incomplete revelation; he must come right out with proof positive.

He cannot rely on the media to complete his task; it is the journalist's job to report the news, not to make it.

He also cannot rely on the Senate to conduct the police's anti-jueteng campaign for them; inquiries in aid of legislation may result in new laws, but enforcement is the province of the executive, through agencies such as the police. Besides, do we really need new laws to crack down on jueteng?

It is of two minds then that we received the news of the Senate probe, which enjoys the backing of key Arroyo ally Senate President Franklin Drilon. The police officer's allegations were designed to be aired in just such a public forum; they have closely followed the pattern of political scandals set in the first years of the Arroyo presidency.

And yet, precisely for that reason, we have serious misgivings also at the Senate committee investigation.

The naming of Lapid as chief investigator may be procedurally logical, but it raises substantive issues. The most important concern Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr. has already pointed out: Lapid is from Pampanga, and was in fact governor of the province when it became a center of the illegal game. The claims of the anonymous police officer allege a Pampanga connection too. Putting Lapid in charge of the inquiry can only undermine its credibility.

But concerns about the substance of the allegations also persist. This scandal does not yet have a Teofisto Guingona, who famously accused President Joseph Estrada of various crimes in a privilege speech that was short, and sharp on rhetoric but long on evidence. It does not yet have a Chavit Singson, who stunned the country by revealing Estrada's complicity in jueteng operations in great detail and with telling impact.

All it has, for now, is a presidential rival, Lacson, who has supported similar anti-Arroyo initiatives in the past, even delivering privilege speeches long on rhetoric and short on evidence. All it has is a police official who is convinced that a new set of key players has taken over jueteng, but lacks the courage of his convictions.

A Senate hearing may bring proof to the surface. Or it may not. That is precisely the problem with it. The source will do the country a signal service if he comes out and names M1, M2 and JS7 now.

GMA should learn from the lessons of the past

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

[illegible]

Civil servant

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

[illegible]

FVR says no

POLITICAL TIDBITS



Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

My lost Precy

HIGH BLOOD

Liberation's other side

THE LONG VIEW



Manuel L. Quezon III

Housing program faces virtual death

COMMENTARY

THEY SAID

Silent role

Masked religiosity

Feudal structure of public transportation industry

LETTERS

Hollow reason for use of 'Rubaiyat' quote

Across the NATION

NGO worker found dead in Davao

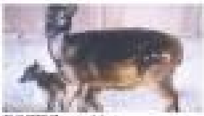
KMU says Cordillera labor force welcomes foreign-backed mines

Indigenous practices urged to protect resources

Army man shot dead in Negros

Dead dolphin found during Pangasinan sea fest

Breeding site for rare RP deer put up



PHILIPPINE spotted deer

Europe Month Celebrated in Manila and in Cebu this May 2005

Rice farmers suffer from defective seeds



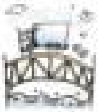
Roundup

Less water flow



Cassava program

Appeal for more bridges



Judge suspended

Cop execs train

Stop trek, pilgrims urged



Bid for Palawan region pushed



Binatbatan fest draws tourists to Vigan City

Army to review mission orders issued to civilians



'Bangus' capital outgrills Turkey

[illegible]

Competition

[illegible]

Praises

[illegible]

House now wants ...

[illegible]

Waiting for a breakthrough

[illegible]

Square One

[illegible]

De Venecia calls for meet to unify country

Charges against Abat

No mass support

Meeting about pension?

Needed components

Abat still on a roll

Support needed

PSG ready for anything

Bayani urges legislators to define MMDA powers

Eastern metro still safest, data show

Marikina going coco diesel

Night courts sought

SUERTRES 7 8 6
EZ2 6 13
SUPERLOTTO 6/49 8 18 31 35 43 48 ₱10,976,613.90
METRO
SWEEPSTAKES 2 0 6 1 5 6 0 ₱100,000.00

Bomb found at DILG building defused



By DJ Yap and Luige del Puerto

POLICE defused a powerful bomb planted outside the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) offices in Quezon City shortly before midnight Saturday, the eve of Labor Day.

Set to blow

Fear and terror

For mining operations

Cops on alert for Erap visit to mother

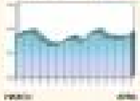
By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

BUSINESS

Gov't trains guns on revenue agencies

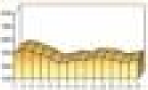
DOF ups corruption quota, to charge erring BIR, BOC workers every 2 weeks

Currencies



Stock Market

Bargain hunting seen to boost market



Lower than expected 5% growth seen in '05

Healthy lifestyle provides better life for Mindanao farmers

MindanaWorld



Ayn Magpale Ayun

Cold chain

Support from GEM Program

Technical research

The Road Ahead

PPA extends ICTSI contract

Cirio shelves plan to sell Del Monte stake

Malacañang goes to Makati

COCKTALES

Victor C. Agustin

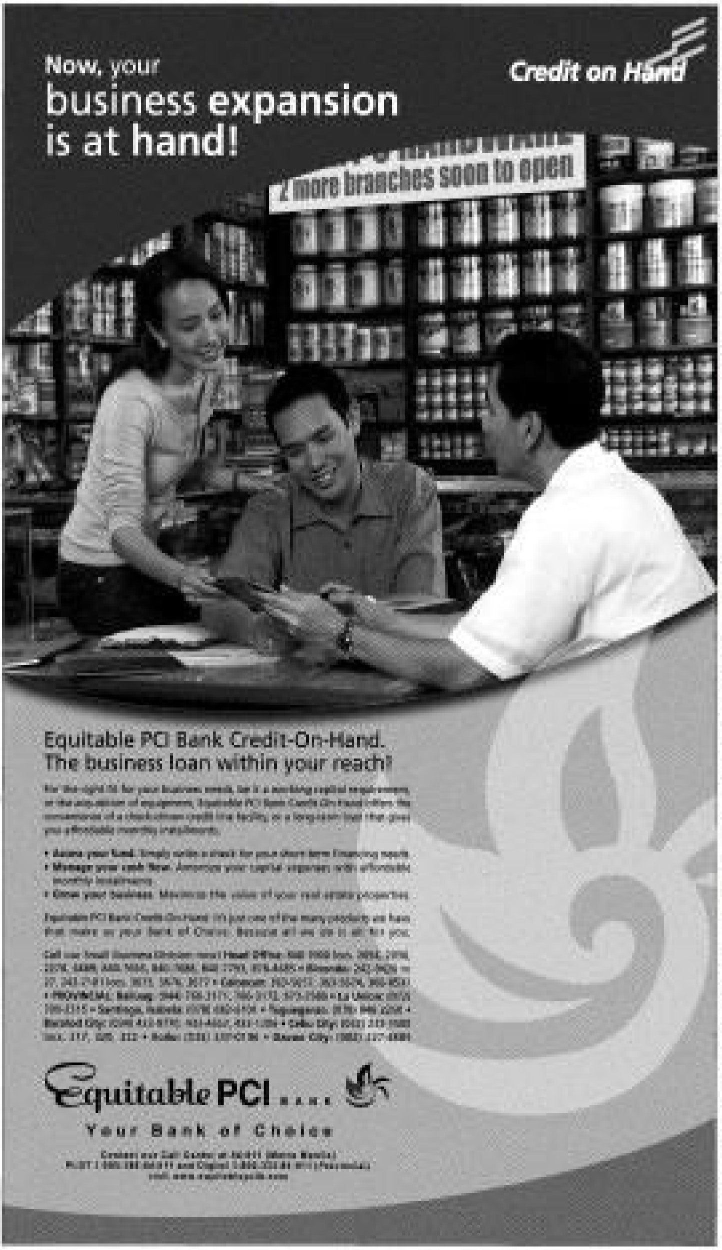
Money-go-round

Heard through the grapevine

Bayantel to come out with own cut-rate offer



RP joins China's early harvest program



GMA profit up 62% to ₱400M

Megaworld's Tan bags award

Bargain …

Levin group eyes MRT 3 extension

What to do with your Pacific pre-need plan

QUESTIONS OF POLICIES

Honesto C. General



On those who toil

No Free Lunch



More investments from China OKd







BUSINESS

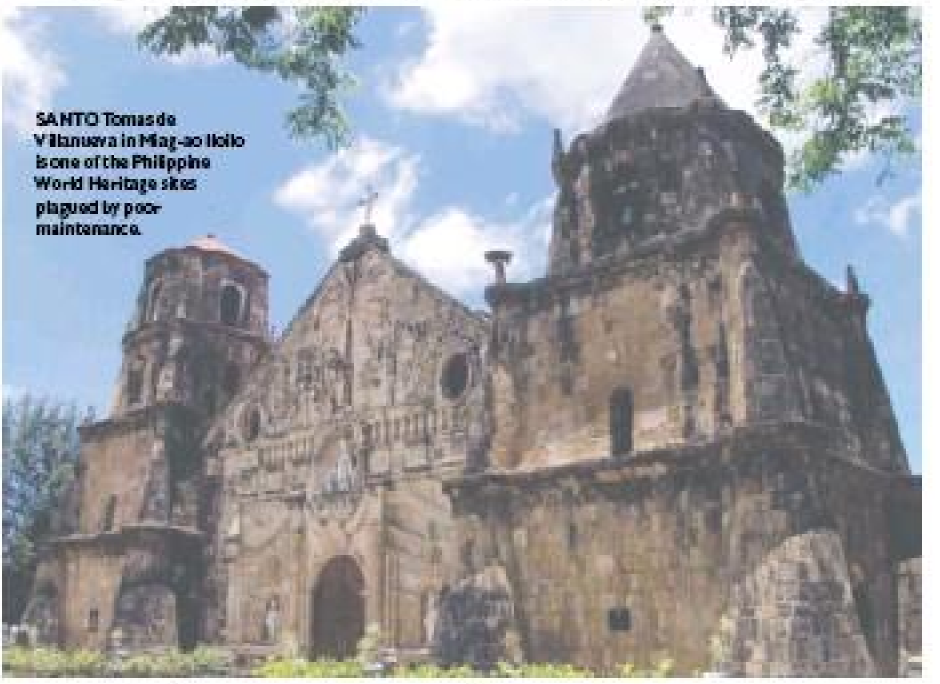
Maynilad creditors OK rehab plan revisions

LIFESTYLE

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MONDAY ARTS & BOOKS • TUESDAY FITNESS • WEDNESDAY 2BU • THURSDAY FOOD • FRIDAY FASHION & BEAUTY



SANTO Tomas de Villanueva in Miag-ao Iloilo is one of the Philippine World Heritage sites plagued by poor maintenance.

World Heritage listing requires local and national effort



PRIDE OF PLACE

Augusto F. Villalon

EVERYBODY wants to have a World Heritage site. Inscription immediately elevates a national or local site to international status, branding it as one of the select few that comprise the patrimony of the world, unique and outstanding sites that exhibit universal value.

World Heritage inscription brings global attention to a site. Government authorities expect an increase of tourism arrivals and more income-generation opportunities, a shortsighted view that opens the site to exploitation and eventual degradation.

Safeguarding the property, not tourism or opportunism, is the primary purpose of inscription. Behind the attractive veil of benefits and prestige that inscription brings, Unesco demands strict guarantees that each World Heritage property is carefully and professionally protected by the country where it is located to assure that its World Heritage values will not disappear forever.

World Heritage inscription is not a simple matter of filling out and submitting a nomination form that proposes a site to the World Heritage List. Preparing a site for World Heritage nomination is a long process that often takes years of preparation.

Unity needed

Preparing for World Heritage inscription is a joint effort by national and local authorities, and more important, by local residents. It is essential that all sectors agree on the same reasons for wanting World Heritage listing, such as maintaining the traditional culture, protecting the natural or cultural beauty of the site, and honoring the memory of a historic act that may have happened there. It could also be an archaeological site with records of a vanished but important civilization, or a natural site of extreme beauty or ecological significance.

A property must have "outstanding universal value" to be inscribed on the World Heritage List, meaning that it possesses exceptional cultural or natural significance that transcends national boundaries, thus it is of importance to present and future generations. Therefore the protection of heritage is of the highest importance to the international community.

The World Heritage Convention lists 10 natural and cultural criteria to prove "outstanding universal value." For instance, one criterion states that a property should "be an outstanding example of traditional human settlement, land-use … representative of a culture or of human interaction with the environment… vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change." Under this criterion, the Rice Terraces of the Philippine Cordilleras have been inscribed.

The outstanding universal value of the site provides the rationale how it is to be protected and managed. The management of the Rice Terraces, therefore, should protect the villages, terraces, and the environment from the "impact of irreversible change."

Detailed preparation is the key to successful World Heritage inscription. The site must be identified and mapped; its boundaries must be drawn. A buffer zone is designated around the site to protect it from encroachment or other pressures. Laws must be enacted--on national, regional, and local levels--to protect the site. Most important, the people involved with the site must be made aware of their participation in the preservation process.

Plan

A site management plan must be drawn up to assure the protection of the property's outstanding universal value. The plan specifies tasks and timetables for implementation by all involved. It becomes the base document by which management progress is monitored in the future.

On the other hand, for sites where there is no agreement on the outstanding universal value, whose heritage significance is misunderstood or where little cooperation exists among national, local, and community sectors, World Heritage inscription may be disastrous.

In countries where conservation is not important on the national agenda, there is an obvious lack of heritage policy, resulting in confusion when conservation issues must be resolved.

In the Philippines, a set of national heritage values and heritage guidelines do not formally exist. Although heritage awareness is increasing, most citizens are unaware that a web of overlapping legislation to protect heritage has been in existence since as early as 1901. Recent attempts to enact a national heritage law have been unsuccessful. On the other hand, enacting legislation on a local level has been positive.

Protection and maintenance of heritage sites in the Philippines is not carried out to uniform standards due to the absence of national heritage policy, a situation that prevents inscribed sites from achieving maximum benefit from World Heritage inscription.

The World Heritage mechanism works to the advantage of inscribed sites when all national, local, and community stakeholders fully understand that the responsibility for carrying out and funding site preservation is principally in their hands. Unesco is always willing to provide technical and training assistance.

Commitment

The World Heritage Convention is an international instrument ratified by state parties, therefore commitment to the convention is on a national level. Upon signing the convention, each country pledges to provide full socio-economic and technical support to World Heritage sites within its borders.

It is unfortunate that some national authorities insist on inscription without thorough preparation of the site for World Heritage.

The Philippine record for maintaining World Heritage properties is far from perfect. The Rice Terraces of the Philippine Cordilleras are on the World Heritage in Danger List, a special listing of World Heritage properties that are in need of intensive care.

Despite technical and financial government assistance for conservation, parish priests from each of the four inscribed churches insist on their own way to repair and alter their churches, completely disregarding the fact that they are custodians of structures considered to be international treasures.

The Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park, a natural property on the World Heritage List, is excellent for its management practices. The PPSRNP Management Team takes meticulous care of the river and its surrounding mountains, forests, marine life, and most of all, assuring that the resident community benefits from World Heritage inscription.

World Heritage listing works both ways. It can be a benefit to a site, or, as we have learned in the Philippines, the opening of a can of worms.

Heritage watch: San Sebastian Church

In 1998, World Monuments Watch of New York granted the National Historical Institute $25,000 to undertake conservation of the all-steel San Sebastian church. The project was never implemented.

Last month, the World Monuments Watch demanded the return of the money. A recent letter from the NHI to San Sebastian stated, "It has been almost six years since the grant was awarded in 1998 and it is unfortunate that San Sebastian Church authorities were unwilling to cooperate with NHI on conservation efforts."

The international competition for conservation funds is tough. Returning them is an embarrassment. The attitude of the San Sebastian priests shows a really low level of concern for a significant structure of national and international patrimony.

E-mail your feedback to afvillalon@hotmail.com



DURING the American era, structures were built in many town plazas together with statues of Jose Rizal, such as this one from Ballesteros, Cagayan, which should be preserved.





"MINDSCAPE in Gold" 1





The landscape of feeling and imagination



"MINDSCAPE in Gold" 2





Flower power blooms in May



Atienza Lee gives thanks and praise for the Creator's gifts through her paintings





Artists pay tribute to Pampanga

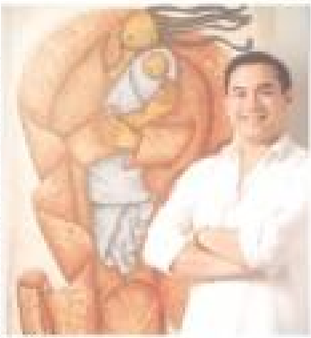




Jack Salud's dotted wonders



"A JOYFUL journey"



JACK Salud

Tanedo at Boston, Maluche at Mag:Net, nude photos at Astra

VISUAL ARTS



"DREAMLAND"





"MOONLIGHT Serenade," by CJ Tanedo









Nunelucio Alvarado comes out

The Negros artist's new works on exhibit at Penguin depict his personal mood because of a health problem with refreshing candor and wit







